



NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

DRAFT REMOVAL ACTION WORKPLAN & DRAFT NEGATIVE DECLARATION FORMER PPG INDUSTRIES, INC. SITE TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA

Public Comment Period: November 15, 2008 to December 16, 2008

WHAT IS BEING PROPOSED?

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) invites public comment on a draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW) and draft Negative Declaration for the 14.5 acre former PPG Industries, Inc. (PPG) site located at 465 Crenshaw Boulevard in Torrance. The draft RAW is a plan to excavate, remove and dispose of contaminated on-site soil containing total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH) in two areas of the site. In addition to this soil removal, a small volume of soil will be removed from three small isolated areas that had trace level detections of semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), furans and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). An estimated total of about 3,060 cubic yards of soil (about 180 truck loads) are proposed for removal. If the RAW is approved, soil removal activities are scheduled to begin in late December 2008.

The former PPG site occupies about 14.5 acres and was used to manufacture aqueous-based and solvent-based paints and synthetic resins for industrial/automotive consumers from 1950 to 2000. In 1999, manufacturing operations were scaled down (eventually to distribution only) in preparation for facility closure. Demolition of the facility began January 2000 and site fixtures and structures were removed. DTSC and its predecessor agency, the Department of Health Services (DHS), approved closure certification for all former hazardous waste (Resource Conservation and Recovery Act) units at the site: one (1) container storage area and two (2) above ground hazardous waste storage tanks in 1996 and one (1) thermal oxidizer (also referred to as a fume scrubber/incinerator in historical documents) in 1987. Site demolition was completed in December 2000, and the site is now vacant and fenced restricting public access. Under DTSC oversight, a Site-Wide Soil and Groundwater Investigation was conducted at the site and completed in July 2008. Results indicated that elevated TPH levels in soil are limited to two areas of the site where proposed soil removal will occur.

DTSC prepared a draft Negative Declaration for this project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This project is considered exempt since it will not have a significant negative impact on the human health and the environment because of the relatively short duration and the controlled manner in which the contaminated soils will be excavated, loaded onto trucks and taken off-site for disposal/treatment.

HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

This notice provides interested stakeholders the opportunity to learn more about the project and proposed RAW activities and to submit comments on the draft RAW and draft Negative Declaration to DTSC during a thirty (30) day public comment period that begins November 15, 2008, and ends on December 16, 2008. Your participation is encouraged. **Public comments must be postmarked or e-mailed no later than December 16, 2008, and sent to: Mr. Johnson Abraham, DTSC Project Manager, 5796 Corporate Avenue, Cypress, CA 90630-4732.**

WHERE DO I GET MORE INFORMATION?

The draft RAW, draft Negative Declaration and other supporting documents are available at the Torrance Public Library, Katy Geissert Center, 3301 Torrance Boulevard, Torrance, CA 90503-5014. Also, all site documents and the Administrative Record pertaining to this project are available for review during office hours at the DTSC Regional Records Office, 5796 Corporate Avenue, Cypress, CA 90630-4732. Contact: Julie Johnson at (714) 484-5337 for an appointment.

CONTACT:

If you have any questions about the project or proposed RAW activities, please contact Johnson Abraham, DTSC Project Manager, at (714) 484-5476 or Stacey Lear, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, at (714) 484-5354 or toll free 1-866-485-5651.

NOTICE TO HEARING IMPAIRED INDIVIDUALS

TDD users can use the California Relay Service (1-888-877-5378) to reach DTSC Project Manager, Mr. Johnson Abraham, at (714) 484-5476.